

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please amend the claims under 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c). The following claim set replaces all prior sets of claims.

What is claimed is:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A process for the depolymerization of ~~glycosaminoglycans~~ heparin wherein the depolymerized ~~glycosaminoglycans~~ have heparin has a M_w less than or equal to 50% of the original M_w of said ~~glycosaminoglycans~~ heparin prior to depolymerization, said process comprising exposing said ~~glycosaminoglycans~~ heparin to UV radiation having a peak of from 245 nm to 260 nm for a sufficient time to reduce the M_w of the depolymerized heparin by at least 50% as compared with the M_w of said heparin prior to said exposure to UV radiation.
2. (previously presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein the source of UV radiation is a medium or low pressure Hg lamp.
3. (previously presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein the UV radiation has a prevalent emission band at 253 nm.
4. (CANCELED)
5. (CANCELED)
6. (previously presented) The process according to any one of claims 1, 2, or 3, wherein the depolymerization process is carried out at a temperature of between 0 and 70 °C.
7. (CANCELED)